

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 8, 2019

Ms. Linda Cruz-Carnall
U.S. Economic Development Administration
Robert N.C. Nix Federal Building
900 Market Street, Room 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Ms. Cruz-Carnall,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the County of Lycoming's application for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works Program. The Greater Williamsport Levee is the second largest flood control system of its kind in Pennsylvania. Constructed by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950's, the levee keeps the West Branch Susquehanna River from flooding the downtown business district and nearby businesses and industry. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the levee protects approximately \$4 billion in economic assets and thousands of jobs in the commercial core of North Central Pennsylvania.

In an effort to address the potential for catastrophic flooding of Williamsport's economic epicenter and to meet modern requirements of levee protection that will give confidence to businesses and industry wanting to expand operations in Williamsport, Lycoming County will work with Williamsport to improve faulty drainage cross pipes and improve the structurally unsound I-wall within Williamsport's Northeast levee (in the area of Memorial Drive and Dewey Avenue). According to the Wood engineering report, these improvements are not considered to be operations or maintenance. A levee's drainage cross pipes, also known as corrugated metal pipes, must be corrugated and lined to work properly. The drainage cross pipes in Williamsport's Northeast Levee are in immediate need of rehabilitation.

I respectfully ask that you give Lycoming County's application all due consideration. In the event that this application is selected for funding, please direct a copy of your award notification to my Grants Coordinator, Alex Byrne, via email at Alexandra_Byrne@toomey.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator